



# PAULINSKILL LAKE ASSOCIATION

## Summer Newsletter 2015

### NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Jeff Locascio**

### ANNOUNCEMENT

Annual Meeting

September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Stillwater School.

See insert for meeting topics and budget.

“Respect the old but seek out the new” is a quote I stumbled across late at night which just happens to be when I get some of my best thinking done and why my Board often asks why they are getting emails at 2am. The quote though is a beautiful summary of the past year. It was a combination of Firsts and Old Traditions reinvigorated. We lost some very special PLA Community members and we gained some wonderful new neighbors. We tried new things as a Board but made very few infrastructure changes. We changed some contractors but most members never felt the change. This was a goal of mine during my last year of my term. I have a strong respect for the way things have been for many years but as I said when you elected me it was time for a few changes. It is my hope that you all enjoyed both the old and the new and felt that as your President I was respectful of the old ways but not afraid to try some new ideas either.

I hope you felt your voices were heard. Your PLA Board worked very hard to answer questions and to listen when all you needed was to talk. Phone calls were answered in a timely fashion, emails were responded to even if it took a bit to find the answer you needed, and our Facebook page **Paulinskill Lake Community Page** often allowed members an immediate answer. I'm very proud of my Board and the fact that they worked together as a team to bring you a wonderful lake community. Change is hard and in my first year our Board experienced a good amount of change but in my second year the Board gelled as a group and everyone worked really hard at their roles and pitched in to help one another whenever needed.

A glimpse of the old and the new from this year-

This year your dues allowed us to-

- Replace playground mulch
- Add new sand to both beaches and the volleyball court leaving them looking beautiful
- To chip seal roads and perform patch jobs after yet another really tough winter
- Continue to offer our community children tennis and swim lessons.

This year we saw many residents step up and volunteer to-

- Join the board for several clean up days where accumulated trash, weeds etc were brought under control leaving our grounds looking beautiful.
- Our mystery gardener continued to keep our flower boxes looking beautiful despite almost no rain this summer.
- We had a member volunteer his time and equipment to spread mulch in the playground area making it a fun and safe place for our children to play.
- We had a family in our community work very hard to bring back an oldie but goodie with the reappearance of the Chicken BBQ. It was a wonderful event that was very well attended by many in our community.
- We saw what a positive difference the children of our community can make as they willingly showed up for clean up days and served as assistants to our Lifeguard Counselors during summer camp.
- We saw a family paint the sheds after they had been marked with spray paint making them look fresh and new just as our summer began.

- We introduced a new Facebook Page called **Paulinskill Lake Buy/Sell/Trade** that took off as members were able to trade services and buy a large selection of items from one another.

This year we added a few new activities at the lake that you as a community will have a voice in at our annual meeting in September.

- We introduced a summer camp run by our lifeguards and the junior counselors I spoke of earlier. On any given day the guards were entertaining as many as 20 children with crafts, games and usually a dip in the lake. A nominal fee of \$25.00 a week was charged per child which covered the cost of the camp completely.
- This Spring saw the rental of our lake by Blair Academy's Crew Team. Many residents were fascinated watching them crew and even took them up on their offer to try out their equipment one sunny weekend.

As always I want to thank my Board, our lifeguards and the countless community members who go above and beyond to make Paulinskill Lake a place I am proud to call home. I encourage you to attend the September Annual Meeting and make your voice heard.

## VICE PRESIDENT

### Tom Williver

Summer has flown by again and before you know it we will be getting ready for fall. So far this summer we have installed new basketball rims at the basketball courts. We plan to work on reconditioning the backboards in the near future. A new picnic table was built and installed down at the ballfield also. The board members and a few volunteers are working hard to spruce up the PLA Grounds so that our community is more enjoyable for our members.

Soon our boating season will come to an end because of the drawdown. However we still have several weeks left to enjoy the lake. I do urge that all users of the lake to be courteous to one another and to be respectful of your wake and the damage it could do to other boaters, swimmers, docks and bulkheads.

As for our lovely Black Bear population please remember to put your garbage in bear proof containers and only put it out on the day of pick-up. Bird feeders should not go out until the bears hibernate, which is usually in late December.

## ENVIRONMENTAL

### Cindy Tracey

We will be doing a draw down this winter. All boats must be out of the water by October 1, 2015. If you have any trees that have fallen into the water at your property, please cut them up and remove from lake bed. Thank you.

If you are doing any repairs on bulkheads or docks remember the lake fills quickly. Do not leave any equipment or tools on the lake bed.

There is no guarantee the water level will remain down, last drawdown we had a hurricane fill the lake up and had a difficult time getting the level down before the state deadline.

## BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

### Jeff Gardner

Well summer is coming to an end the leaves will be falling and the cooler weather will be here before we know it. The grounds crew will be packing it up for the year and so will I. My position is up for reelection this year and due to having two young children at home and now that J Lee Automotive is now back in business again I need to focus on those priorities right now. With that being said I enjoyed my time being on the board and want to thank all those who also volunteered their time participating in community clean ups. Wish you all a safe and wonderful fall and holiday season.

All boats must be out of the water by October 1<sup>st</sup>!

## MEMBERSHIP

### Lori Schutte

Please help me welcome the newest members of our community: Kenneth Waldron and Steven Carbone.

We hope you take the opportunity to join the PLA community in all of the activities that abound!

A few members of the community have responded to the call for a 'walking club'. If you would like to join them, please let me know.

Prior to our Annual Meeting last year, your PLA board met with the members of our community who joined us from September 2013 to September 2014 at our first 'Meet n' Greet'. The time was set aside to welcome them, give them a personal introduction to the board and to have time for a Q & A session. Each new member was given a PLA tote bag as part of their welcome.

## BEACHES

### Tracey Coombs

It was a busy summer here at Paulinskill Lake! Thank you Marissa, Heidi & Blair for a great job with swimming lessons. Several dozen children participated, its always exciting to see the progress & excitement when new swimmers finally make it to the dock , or accomplish their first beach to beach swim! We had a nice turnout for tennis lessons with Kristin & Olivia. I see some future tennis players emerging! Our first summer rec camp seemed to be a big hit with the number of participants growing each week. Special thanks to Heidi for an excellent

job planning & running this program , and to Dylan , Nick and Shawn for all their help at camp, as well as to our many volunteer counselors. Congratulations to Blair and the girls for putting on another fabulous synchronized swim show. we had a small turn out for swim day, but those who made it had a lot of fun. Finally, five of our lifeguards competed in the Sussex County lifeguard competition at Lake Mohawk and put their rescue skills to the test. Beach clean up will be August 30, most of our guards will already be back at college, so we'd appreciate any extra helping hands!

## RECORDING SECRETARY NEWS

### Lori Schutte

My term for Recording Secretary is up this year and I would like to retire after many years of serving the PLA community. I have met many wonderful members, both new and some who have been here most of their lives. I'm hoping

someone will step forward for this position. If you have any questions on what it entails, please email me. Thank you for allowing me to serve this great community!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

\*Labor Day Family Fun Triathlon- Boat Bike Run All Welcome! Pot Luck to follow on Beach 2. **Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 12 (noonish).**

\*Pumpkin Float Date **TBD**

\*Christmas Caroling Date **TBD**

\*4<sup>th</sup> Annual P.L.A. Ski & Boat Club Chili Contest **Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 3pm at Paulinskill Lake Ballfield**

3 Trophies will be awarded. All types of Chili welcome! **Family friendly – Free.** Open to all PLA members and their families!

Email: [paulinskillchilicook@outlook.com](mailto:paulinskillchilicook@outlook.com)

**NEIGHBORS:**  
Please remember to trim your bushes back by the road. This is a very important safety issue for all of our members.

## PLA ROSTER

**Jeff LoCasio** | *President:* [president@paulinskilllake.com](mailto:president@paulinskilllake.com)  
**Tom Williver** | *Vice President:* [vp@paulinskilllake.com](mailto:vp@paulinskilllake.com)  
**Jeff Woershing** | *Treasurer:* [treasurer@paulinskilllake.com](mailto:treasurer@paulinskilllake.com)  
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**Rich Boyce** | *Civic Improvement/Rules:* [rules@paulinskilllake.com](mailto:rules@paulinskilllake.com)

# ELECTION BIOS

## CANDIDATES FOR OFFICER POSITIONS

### **Jeff Woersching**

#### Treasurer

Jeff is a 20 year resident of Paulinskill Lake. He met his wife Janis here at the lake where she had grown up; they've recently celebrated their 29<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Their three daughters, Nicole, Ali, and Blair have all been active in lake events. Jeff has an MBA from Fairleigh Dickenson University and is currently employed by Duro Bag Corporation. He assisted his wife for 9 years as Beach trustee, was the Buildings and Grounds trustee for 4 years, and also served in the role of Vice-President. He is a past Boat and Ski Club President, and former President of the Stillwater Fredon Wrestling Club, and has coached wrestling for 25 years.

### **Ron Volk**

#### Treasurer

Ron Volk Ron is running for a two year term as Treasurer. A graduate of the College of Forestry at Syracuse University, Ron is retired. He served 7 years as a Navigator in the USAF, and completed 30 years of employment with International Paper. Ron has served on the PLA Board in the past and has prior experience as Treasurer of the Spruce Mountain Ski Area, Jay/Livermore Falls, Maine. He is currently a member of Professional Ski Instructors of America, working as a ski instructor during winter weekends. Ron and his wife Maija live on Deer Run.

### **Jeff LoCascio**

#### President

Looking for an active lake community, Jeff and his wife Danielle, found Paulinskill Lake in the summer of 2003 and moved here with their growing family. Jeff has served as President on the Board since January 2014. Building on his professional experience as a scientist, project manager and client engagement manager, his time on Water District No 1 during the challenges of the system remediation, lessons learned as a founder of the Myers Homeowners Association (Tucson, AZ), Vice-President of the Paulinskill Lake Boat and

Ski club and experiences in other active communities, he is proud to have served on a robust organization. Jeff is running for one last term as President and hopes to continuing bringing a fresh perspective to the PLA based on peer review, collaboration, communication and community involvement. If you would like to learn more about Jeff, please visit his linkedin profile (<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/jeff-locascio/0/6aa/315>) or feel free to contact him at [jeff@locascio.com](mailto:jeff@locascio.com).

### **Terrie DeFabritis**

#### Recording Secretary

Hi my name is Terrie DeFabritis, I have been a member of this community for most of the time since 1961. I grew up here in the lake and have raised my six children along with some of my grandchildren. I have been very active in the community as a parent, EMT/firefighter and neighbor. I am finding I have more time these days as I am a life member in most of the organizations I belong to, I feel I would be a good candidate as a recording secretary, and/or membership chair person, or a Trustee. I have many of the skills needed to be proficient in it.

I am a 23 year EMT who has served as secretary, lieutenant and captain; 16 year firefighter/fire police, who has served as fundraising committee/membership; ex-fire police commissioner, currently serving as treasurer, I served 5 years as Recording Secretary for the Sussex County Public Safety Training Academy Board of Directors and have many other training's and certifications. Most of my background is volunteer and I would like to spend some of my time giving to my home community. Thank you for your consideration, I look forward to the opportunity of working together with all of you.

## CANDIDATES FOR TRUSTEE POSITIONS

### Michele Boyce

Growing up in Hampton, Michele and her husband Rich both knew they wanted to raise their children in Sussex County. They have called Paulinskill Lake home for the past 19 years and have enjoyed watching their children grow up and enjoy all that our lake has to offer. Michele is a Manager at Newton Medical Center/Atlantic Health System. Previously, she was a local Realtor for 10+ years and a stay-at-home mom to their two children, Brittany &

Cody. In her spare time Michele enjoys time with her family, gardening, kayaking and as spending as much time as possible outdoors exploring the lakes, roads and trails of Sussex & Warren County. Living here for many years she would like to offer a new "face" to the board and help our community continue to grow through communication and support.

### Aaron Westra

My name is Aaron Westra, my wife Becky and I have lived in Paulinskill Lake since 2006. I have noticed a lot of great changes around the lake since we moved in and would like to become more involved with the PLA. Growing up in Hampton Township, I had a lot of friends that lived in the lake. I remember coming here to swim, play ice hockey, trick or treat and hang out. Now I can't wait for my son to enjoy the same. I am looking forward to the opportunity to be able to serve with the PLA board and assist with anything I can. Thank you.

### Vinnie Grasso

My name is Vinnie Grasso, and I am running for Trustee with an interest in grounds and maintenance. A little about me, my grandfather purchased the house where I currently live in the early 1950's, I have been coming up and enjoying the lake since I can remember. All the kids in my family have visited and enjoyed the lake for many years. I purchased the house in approximately 1999-

2000 where I restored and basically fixed up the house and property. I have a college age son that visits when he can but he is away most of the time in South Carolina, I have been bow hunting and fishing this area since I can remember- I decided to run for this position because I have noticed the board making positive strides to bring the members together and want to contribute to making the PLA a fun place to live, use the lake and enjoy it.

## CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE

Let's go green! Sign up at <http://www.paulinskilllake.com> to receive the newsletter via email.

